

Message Text

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TORUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4968

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 7460

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, OCON, SENV, IAEA

SUBJ: IAEA PANEL ON RADIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE FOR AIRBORNE

CONTAMINANTS IN THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, VIENNA

OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1, 1974

REF: STATE 184784

1. AGENCY ADVISES THAT FOLLOWING NINE COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUBJECT PANEL: BRAZIL, CANADA, FRANCE, FRG, INDIA, POLAND, USSR, UK, USA, AND FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SEND OBSERVERS: WHO, ILO, ICRP, OECD/NEA, ISO AND COMMISSION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES.

2. AS REPORTED IAEA VIENNA 6543, PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WILL BE TO DEVELOP GUIDANCE FOR MEMBER STATES ON SUITABLE METHODS FOR MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF AIRBORNE RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS. THIS WILL APPLY TO ANY WORKING ENVIRONMENT WHERE ANY RADIOISOTOPES ARE NORMALLY IN USE, INCLUDING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, LARGE LABORATORIES AND SMALL FACILITIES UTILIZING SMALL QUANTITIES OF RADIOISOTOPES FOR MEDICINE OR AGRICULTURE.

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3. GUIDANCE ON THIS SUBJECT WILL, OF COURSE, BE OF USE TO ALL MEMBERS OF AGENCY. HOWEVER, IT WILL PROBABLY BE OF GREATEST USE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEGUN RELATIVELY SMALL-SCALE USE OF RADIOISOTOPES BUT HAVE YET TO DEVELOP INDIGENEOUS NATIONAL NUCLEAR ENERGY REGULATORY CAPABILITY SUFFICIENTLY CAPABLE AND WELL-TRAINED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE GUIDANCE ON THIS SUBJECT FOR USERS IN ITS COUNTRY.

4. FOR THIS REASON, MISSION CONSIDERS THAT PRACTICAL UTILITY OF PRODUCT OF THIS MEETING WILL BE OF GREATEST BENEFIT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF AGENCY. WHILE DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTICIPATION ON PANEL IS LIMITED TO BRAZIL AND INDIA, AGENCY SECRETARIAT STRESSED THAT INVITATIONS WERE ISSUED PRIMARILY ON BASIS OF STATES WHICH HAD DONE WORK IN FIELD AND COULD ADD SOMETHING TO DISCUSSIONS OF PANEL, RATHER THAN ON AN CONSIDERATIONS OF ULTIMATE UTILITY OF PRODUCT.

5. ACCORDINLGY, MISSION CONSIDERS THAT THERE WOULD BE AMPLE JUSTIFICATION FOR USE OF COST-FREE EXPERT FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOR PARTICIPATION OF TWO US EXPERTS IN THIS MEETING IF, IN CONSIDERED JUDGEMENT OF AEC, QUALITY OF US PARTICIPATION AND OF FINAL PRODUCT OF PANEL WOULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED AND ITS UTILITY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO WILL PROBABLY BE LARGEST USERS OF GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY PANEL ENHANCED BY PARTICIPATION OF ADDITIONAL US EXPERT.

6. ADVISE RE:DECISION AS TO ROSS PARTICIPATION. PORTER

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